



Showcase of the Arts



Prepared for the
York County Board of Supervisors
June 2004



P R E L U D E



*A Message From
Sheila L. Myers, Chairman
The York County Arts
Commission*

The York County Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of cultural arts in our community by funding a grant program that provides direct assistance to arts organizations and individual artists whose work benefits County citizens.

This publication presents an overview of the arts programs that are available to the diverse York County community. Since its inception over a decade ago, the York County Arts Commission has not only seen an increase in the number of arts opportunities available to our citizens, but has also seen an increase in the audiences for the arts as well. This increasing demand for the arts is truly an indication of the importance the arts have in serving the public in York County, our neighboring communities, statewide and nationally.

We encourage you to support the arts by attending a musical or theatrical performance, visiting a museum, or enrolling in an art or music class because it will enrich your life and foster an appreciation of the excellence and diversity of our community's artistic accomplishments.

**Sheila L. Myers, Chairman
The York County Arts Commission**

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All Things Bright & Beautiful



All Things Bright & Beautiful is a performing arts organization dedicated to the presentation of the musical and theatrical arts.

All Things Bright & Beautiful will produce its second Performance Season at the Yoder Barn. This season will include two Hampton Roads Premiere Musicals, a production with their Children's Choir, and the Virginia Premiere of an acclaimed book turned drama. The season will strive to both entertain and expand the views of its audience.

All Things Bright & Beautiful will nurture an inclusive community that is more connected, concerned and informed by producing a series of high-quality theatre presentations that invite their audiences to reexamine the world in which we live.

All Things Bright & Beautiful will encourage talent and inspired performing artists and their creative energy to live and work in York County and the Virginia Peninsula by providing them a performance opportunity which compensates them, however modestly.

Through the **All Things Bright & Beautiful** Children's choir, students in York County and the surrounding areas will have the opportunity to refine their musical abilities while exploring a new genre of music.

For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends \$650 of County grant funding and \$150 of State arts funds.

The Arc of Greater Williamsburg



The Arc of Greater Williamsburg is an organization that seeks to provide hands on art experiences through art instruction and art making, to adults and teenagers with mental retardation.

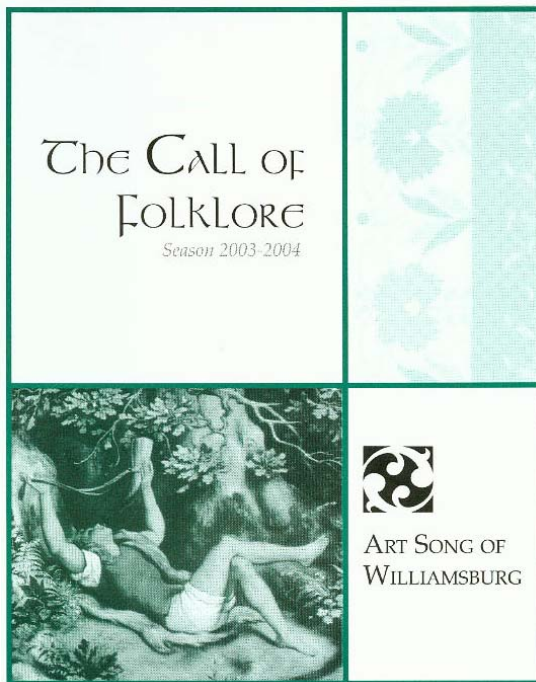
It is the hope of the organization to provide four separate sessions in both York County and Williamsburg. The experiences will provide an opportunity for personal expression and to make projects to take home. There is an anticipated attendance of 30-50 participants per session. Through these sessions,

The Arc of Greater Williamsburg seeks to:

- Provide art experiences for adults and teenagers with mental retardation.
- Provide people with mental retardation opportunities for artistic expression.
- Promote creativity and a sense of achievement in people with mental retardation.
- Provide much needed respite for caregivers
- Show others that it is abilities, not disabilities, that count.

For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$1200.

Art Song of Williamsburg



Art Song of Williamsburg is a musical arts organization dedicated to the presentation of the vocal arts which, in the 2003-2004 season named "The Call of Folklore," featured a repertoire that explored the widely varied realizations of the Romantic influence and democratic spirit on folk literature and song. Classical composers discovered this wealth of material and by setting it to music, elevated the genre to the high art of "art song." Concerts ranged from classical folk songs of the 19th century to a program, in January 2004, that was a tribute of African-American composers to our nation's musical heritage. Founded in June 2000 by Dr. Genevieve McGiffert, **Art Song of Williamsburg** presents these performances each season in the performing arts center of the Williamsburg Regional Library. A pre-concert talk provides deeper insight and prepares the listener for the music and poetry of the program.

The working title for the 2004-2005 season is "Stars of the Opera," and an exciting line-up of "rising stars" is already in progress.

The mission of this nonprofit organization is to further the art of solo song by presenting the great vocal literature of the Western world to local and regional audiences and to encourage young professional singers, with ties to Virginia, by presenting them in public performances. For further information please call (757) 229-7101 or visit the **Art Song of Williamsburg** web site, www.artsongwilliamsburg.org for concert times and ticket ordering advice.

Art Song of Williamsburg affords York County residents an opportunity to experience professional quality music at a close-to-home location.

For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$450.

Celebrate Yorktown Committee



The purpose of the **Celebrate Yorktown Committee** is to organize, conduct, and promote events and celebrations in Historic Yorktown. This volunteer group of citizens and Yorktown business-owners has done exceptional work to sponsor cultural arts activities in Historic Yorktown and had over 6,000 people attend their events in 2003.

The activities offered by the **Celebrate Yorktown Committee** that were submitted for consideration for funding

from the York County Arts Commission include:

- A free outdoor concert by the Virginia Symphony at the Yorktown Victory Monument that is held in late August;
- Four free indoor/outdoor concerts that will be held in Historic Yorktown throughout the year;
- Period entertainment for various homes and buildings in support of the Christmas Homes Tour program.

These cultural arts activities benefit York County citizens by increasing visitation to and spending in Historic Yorktown and the County.

The **Celebrate Yorktown Committee** received approximately \$20,600 in contributions and grants for FY2004 from a variety of sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends \$3,800 of County grant funding and \$300 of State arts funds (or equal percentage of State money if less State funding is received than anticipated).**

Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble

The Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble's main objective is to conduct and promote four performances highlighting classical music, popular music, and marches. Their goal is to entertain the public and raise money for a scholarship awarded yearly to a high school senior who has played in the band.



Approximately sixty members make up the **Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble**. Twenty-one are York County residents.

For more information on **Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble**, visit the group's web site, www.cbwe.org.

Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble received a total of \$1,200 in contributions and grants from various sources in FY 2004. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$200.**

City of Williamsburg Parks and Recreation Department



Funding is requested by the **City of Williamsburg Parks and Recreation Department** to assist with the costs of the annual “July Summer Breeze” concert series held in Merchants Square in downtown Williamsburg. These free outdoor concerts have become widely popular in the community, as evidenced by an estimated 4,500 people attending the 2003 July concert series.

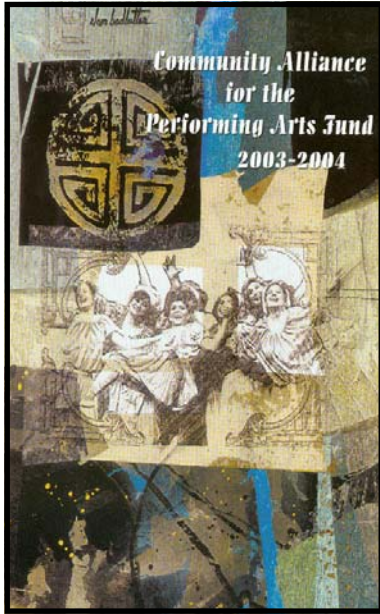
are July 8-29,2004.

The dates of the 2004 series

York County residents enjoy having an opportunity to attend free concerts in a safe and pleasant setting. Residents and tourists have the opportunity to listen to music ranging from Sinatra style to disco, bluegrass and Jimmy Buffett style. A local favorite is used each year which generally draws a larger crowd.

For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$600.

Community Alliance for the Performing Arts Fund



The **Community Alliance for the Performing Arts Fund** will be producing its annual classical ballet “The Nutcracker” and the full length musical using area children and youth legitimately trained for these art forms, many of which attend York County School of the Arts and the Eastern Virginia School for the Performing Arts. The fund provides special discounted performances of these productions that enable public, private and homeschoolers to attend. It provides financial support to qualified students to pursue training through institutions providing conservatory level performing arts programs.

The York County Arts Commission is recommending a \$400 grant for FY2005 in support of this program.

Coventry Elementary School Parent Teacher Association

Coventry Elementary School Parent Teacher Association and Cultural Arts and Cultural Committee has 15 years of sound management and fiscal accountability. The organization is not-for-profit and tax-exempt. Activities will be held at the school and all events are accessible and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.



In partnership with the York County Arts Commission, the Cultural Arts Committee of the Coventry Elementary School Parent Teacher Association has sponsored three evening programs highlighting the arts.

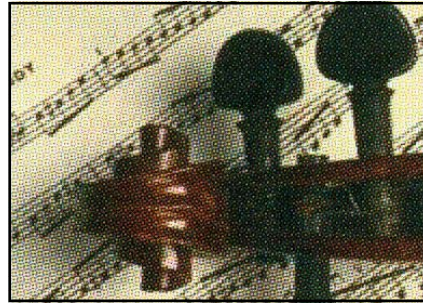
On March 29, 2004, the York River Symphony performed at Coventry Elementary School. This event was supported through the generosity and creativity of the York County Arts Commission and was free and open to the public. The commission also sponsored the Yorktown String Quartet's performance at Coventry Elementary School in the fall of 2003 and provided matching funds to purchase materials for a Make and Take Arts and Crafts Night held in December of last year. Both events were free and open to the public.

In addition to these commission sponsored programs, the Cultural Arts Committee has organized a wide variety of events for students who attend Coventry and their families. Events during the 2003-2004 school year included performances of *Sand in My Shoes* by the Jane Franklin Dance Company, *O'Freedom* by the Virginia Opera, *A Valentine's Serenade* by violinist Bethany Donahue, and readings by The Loud Poet and other local authors.

The Cultural Arts Committee also supports a student usher program. This opportunity trains students to be courteous, polite and helpful attendants at each of the school performances. Over 25 students are involved in this program.

The financial support for this program would be derived from a combination of contributions, grants and fund raising activities initiated by the **Coventry Elementary School Parent Teachers Association** and the **Arts and Cultural Committee**. The **York County Arts Commission** is recommending a \$1,100 grant for FY2005 in support of this program.

Cultural Alliance of Greater Hampton Roads



Programs and services provided by the **Cultural Alliance** support a broad spectrum of the cultural arts industry including: organizations, artists, performers, institutions and communities in the Greater Hampton Roads area. Their efforts include advocating private and public financial investment in the arts and cultural organizations, encouraging community participation in and awareness of cultural activities, and providing assistance that will strengthen and in some cases, stabilize cultural institutions in order to enhance the economic impact of the cultural arts industry.

Although the programs and services of the **Cultural Alliance** are numerous, the York County Arts Commission is particularly supportive of their Cultural Arts Calendar publication, which lists cultural events throughout the Greater Hampton Roads region. This publication not only provides York County citizens with arts information on a regional scope but also provides regional coverage for cultural events that are held in York County as well.

The **Cultural Alliance of Greater Hampton Roads** received a total of \$34,300 in grants and contributions from various sources in FY2004. **The York County Arts Commission is recommending a grant in the amount of \$400 for FY2005.**

The Fifes and Drums of York Town



For over 25 years, **The Fifes and Drums of York Town** has represented Yorktown and York County at local, regional and national events, performing for thousands of people. In 2003, their schedule included 94 performances at public and private events. The quality of their music is excellent and as a result, they are entrusted to perform events at locations such

as the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC and for State events sponsored by the Governor of Virginia.

Their grant request is for funding:

- the purchase of new drums to replace those that have aged beyond cost-effective repairs;
- to have maintenance and repairs done on drums that are still serviceable;
- to buy some new regimental uniforms;
- Performance expenses

In FY2004, **The Fifes and Drums of York Town** received a total of \$11,500 in contributions and grants from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission is recommending a County grant of \$5,700 and \$2,500 of State arts funds (or an equal percentage of State money if less State funding is received than anticipated).**

First Night of Williamsburg, Inc.



First Night of Williamsburg, Inc. is a family-oriented nonalcoholic New Year's celebration of the performing arts that features 60 different performers or groups offering a range of entertainment choices for every age and interest. Last year the 10th anniversary of First Night in Williamsburg attracted over 7,000 guests; typically, over 200 volunteers and 250 performers are also involved. The celebration begins at 6:00 PM and culminates with a fireworks display at midnight. Admission to all

events is gained through the purchase of a First Night button, sold at a family-friendly price (\$8) from early December until the day of the event, when buttons cost \$12; children five years of age and under are admitted free of charge. A program provides guidance to the performers' schedules and locations as well as sites for food and comfort amenities. Performances are held at indoor venues, most within easy walking distance of Merchants Square in historic Williamsburg; bus service is provided for those needing assistance.

This annual celebration has enjoyed the support of businesses, churches, service organizations, W-JC Schools and individuals since its beginning in 1993. The volunteer board of directors is most grateful for the generosity of its sustaining sponsors, including The College of William and Mary, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, City of Williamsburg, James City County, Williamsburg Regional Library, Williamsburg Area Arts Commission, York County and York County Arts Commission. This is a community event for the whole community!

Visit www.firstnightofwilliamsburg.org for more information.

First Night of Williamsburg, Inc. received a total of \$9,250 in grants as well as \$22,000 in donations from various sources for FY2004. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$750.**

Flute Frenzy Association



Flute Frenzy, a flute choir, provides an opportunity for flute students to participate in a chamber music ensemble unlike typical school band or orchestra experience. Participants in the flute choir focus on intonation, learn how individual musical parts enhance each other, experience different types of music and play the instruments in the flute family. The group exposes local residents to a wealth of wonderful music written specifically for flute ensembles.

For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$300.

Institute for Dance, Inc.

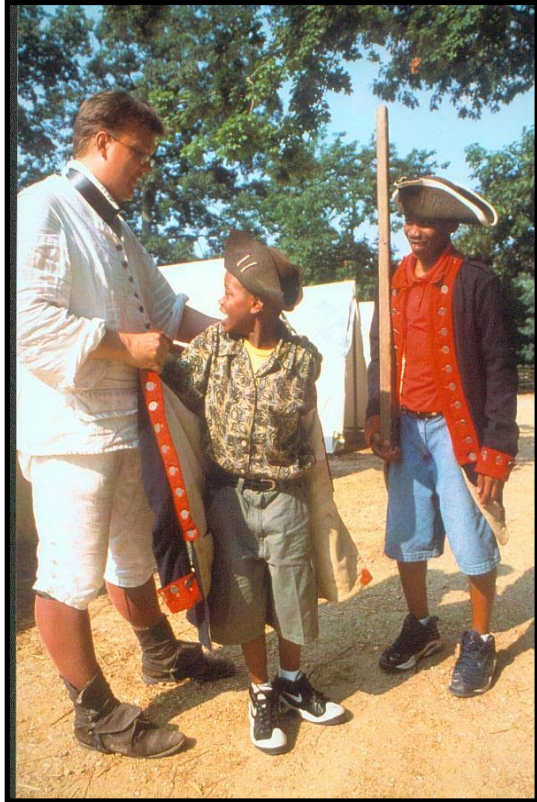
Residents of the Greater Williamsburg area have enjoyed the annual holiday performances of the famous ballet "The Nutcracker," that have been produced by the Chamber Ballet Company of the **Institute for Dance, Inc.** for over 26 years. One of the main objectives in producing this ballet is to expose and educate local area school children to one of the classics of all time in the world of dance by providing discounted tickets to performances of "The Nutcracker".



Held at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall at the College of William and Mary, performances of "The Nutcracker" were attended by at least 2,000 people in 2003. In addition, many local residents participate in the ballet itself, either by dancing or performing with the orchestra.

Institute for Dance, Inc. received \$7,000 in contributions and grants from various sources in FY2004. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission is recommending a grant in the amount of \$400.**

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation



One of the major attractions to the Historic Triangle are our two State-owned and operated facilities, the Yorktown Victory Center and the Jamestown Settlement. Funding requested by the **Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation** is for support of special events planned at the Yorktown Victory Center. These events include programs and themes such as: "Tools of the Trade," "Foods and Feasts of Colonial Virginia," "A Colonial Christmas," "Seed to Stalk," "The Road to Independence," and "Yorktown Victory Celebration." These programs serve the community and boost tourism.

Studies conducted by the **Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation** staff indicate that residents of our local area particularly enjoy special event offerings because they enhance the interpretation of the history presented by the museum's on-going exhibits and bring to life particular events that first shaped our country.

In 2003, total visitation at the Yorktown Victory Center again exceeded 200,000. Education opportunities offered at the Yorktown Victory Center are important resources for York County and are offered to York County schools at a fraction of the costs. During the 2002-2003 academic year, 3,352 students benefited from the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation's on-site and outreach education programs. In addition, all York County residents receive free admission to both the Yorktown Victory Center and the Jamestown Settlement.

The **Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation** received \$86,900 in contributions and grants in FY2004. **The York County Arts Commission recommends \$4,600 of County grant funding and \$200 of State arts funds (or equal percentage of State money if less State funding is received than anticipated).**

The Peninsula Community Theatre



The **Peninsula Community Theatre** is requesting funding to support their Theatre Mainstage and Children's Theatre season. The season for Theatre Mainstage consists of five plays, two musicals, a drama and two comedies. Five shows are planned for the Children's Theatre season. In all, there will be sixty-four performances.

The main objectives of PCT's are to:

- Offer to all Peninsula residents the opportunity to see quality theatre at a reasonably affordable price.
- Provide opportunities to youth and adults alike to learn and use acting, directing, technical, theatre production and management skills in an abundantly creative environment.
- Introduce and offer the children of the Peninsula the opportunity to experience quality theatre early on so that they may cultivate an appreciation of the arts that will last a lifetime.
- Insure the over-all high quality of production values. The Board recognizes that good sound administration of resources, physical and financial, guarantee PCT's future.

More information on the organization's activities can be obtained by visiting PCT's web site, www.peninsulacommunitytheatre.org.

The **Peninsula Community Theatre** received a total of \$13,500 in contributions and grants from various sources in FY2004. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$700.**

Peninsula Fine Arts Center

The diversity of cultures found in our area provides continual learning situations and the goals of this project are to enable students to recognize, define, accept, and display their own cultural individuality by developing and utilizing research, writing, and artistic skills. Through a group installation of individual masks, stylized figures, and painted canvas, the Center will prominently display the diversity found throughout three school



districts (Williamsburg/James City County, Newport News, and York County). Like stitches in a great fabric, the collective gathering of various races, ethnicity, and cultural backgrounds of the students will create a sculptural rendition of strength, love, power, diversity, and beauty that makes up the fabric of life.

Approximately 25 students from Bruton High School will benefit from their direct participation in the Artist In Residence program. The entire student population of nearly 600 students will benefit from a display of the artwork at their school, while approximately 100 family members and 35 faculty will be invited to the Center to view the installation. The student installation at the Center, coupled with scheduled indoor exhibitions will provide an anticipated audience of 6,500-8,000 for the eight weeks. The Center's web-site will offer over 10,000 web-site visitors the opportunity to view this project.

The **Peninsula Fine Arts Center** received a total of over \$681,000 in grants from various sources in FY2004. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends \$700 in County grant funding and \$300 of State arts funds (or equal percentage of State money if less State funding is received than anticipated).**

Publick Times Chorus of Sweet Adelines International



The **Publick Times Chorus of Sweet Adelines International (Sweet Adelines)** is a women's musical organization committed to advancing the original American art form of singing barbershop style harmony. The two primary goals of **Sweet Adelines** are to develop an appreciation for barbershop music in the community through their numerous performances and to improve the musicianship of the members themselves through the instruction

received during weekly rehearsal sessions.

Their annual performance schedule includes monthly performances at retirement and nursing homes, various summer concert series and festivals held in the Hampton Roads area, benefits functions, and their annual show. Regional special events where they perform regularly include "An Occasion for The Arts" and the Grand Illumination. Performances by **Sweet Adelines** are enjoyed by over 12,000 people each year.

Sweet Adelines received a total of \$14,000 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from the Newport News, Williamsburg, and York County Arts Commissions, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the Junior Woman's Club of Williamsburg. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$1,800.**

Senior Center of York

The **Senior Center of York** offers to the senior adult population of York County programs (seven to eight times a year) depicting the culture, drama, dance, and customs of countries around the world. Food is provided at these programs, sometimes prepared according to recipes native to the country being featured. Our Cultural Day attendance ranges between 30 to 45 seniors. The Senior Center of York is operated jointly by York County, the Peninsula Agency on Aging (PAA) and the Senior Center of York Board of Directors.



The Yorktown Woman's Club will provide a matching grant of \$200 for this program, which also has the support of the Peninsula Agency on Aging and the Board of Directors of the **Senior Center of York**.

For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$200.

Stage Lights

Williamsburg-based **StageLights** is a series of theatre arts workshops held in the summer that open to young people 6 to 13 years of age. Participants are taught the techniques of acting, voice, dance, and stagecraft, while hopefully gaining an appreciation for the many facets of theatre art form. At the conclusion of the summer workshop, participants offer 5 public performances that will demonstrate the skills they learned.

These performances are usually held at the Williamsburg Regional Library, Merchants Square (as part of the Summer Breeze program) and Matthew Whaley Elementary School. Over 1,100 people attended these performances in 2003.



Approximately 60 students, most of whom are from York County, James City County and the City of Williamsburg, participate in the workshops offered by **StageLights**. Full or partial tuition scholarships are given to those children who qualify for financial assistance.

StageLights received a total of \$6,308 in contributions and grants for FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$500.**

Theatre IV

For over 29 years, **Theatre IV** has performed in schools throughout Virginia. **Theatre IV** is a Richmond-based organization that uses theatre to teach important lessons to children about history, safety, science and moral values. They are recognized as America's leading arts-in-education theatre group. Their grant request is to provide York County school children with 15 in-school performances during the 2004-2005 school year.



Visit **Theatre IV** online at www.theatreiv.org.

Theatre IV received \$956,905 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$2,000.**

This Century Gallery of Williamsburg



This Century Gallery of Williamsburg (formerly named The Twentieth Century Gallery) is an art gallery located in the City of Williamsburg that not only sponsors art exhibits but also provides opportunities for the community to participate in educational programs, art classes and workshops in the fine arts. Over 5,000 people in 2003 from the Williamsburg area participated in various art programs such as their School Art Challenge for middle and high school students or were part of a guided tour of the gallery or special demonstration program.

Of special note are the benefits derived from a partnership **This Century Gallery of Williamsburg** has with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond. This relationship brings adult and student workshops, exhibits and special programs to the area that otherwise would not be available. These programs are very much appreciated by the art-loving community of the Greater Williamsburg area.

York County residents received direct benefits from the programs that are offered for York County school students. In addition, County residents of all ages visit the gallery to view exhibits and participate in other programs/activities sponsored by their professional staff. For information on events, visit the gallery's web site, www.thiscenturyartgallery.org.

Grant monies from the York County Arts Commission will be used to fund the presentation of regularly scheduled visiting artist exhibits and outreach programs such as art classes and workshops in the York County Public Schools.

This Century Gallery of Williamsburg received a total of \$5,400 in contributions and grants from various sources in FY2004. **The York County Arts Commission is recommending a \$400 grant for FY2005.**

Virginia Opera

Over its twenty-nine year history, the **Virginia Opera** has evolved into a major regional company recognized internationally for its innovative staging of both traditional and contemporary operas. The **Virginia Opera** is committed to introducing young people to opera with the goal of sparking a lifelong appreciation and involvement in the art form. This is accomplished by sponsoring an outreach program that is available, affordable and accessible to the broadest spectrum of people in the surrounding communities.

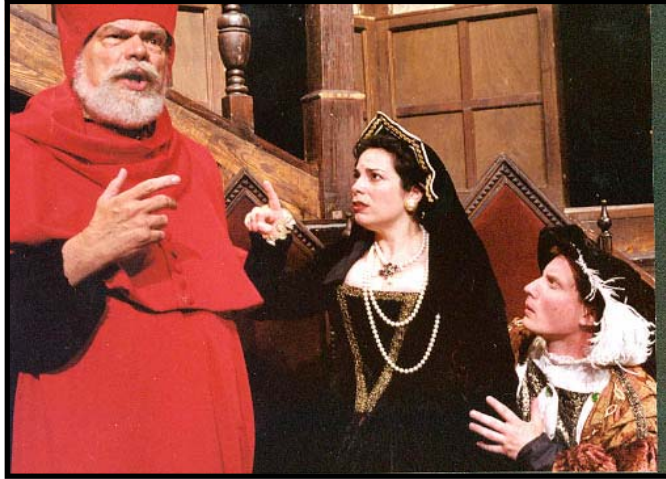


Funding requested by the **Virginia Opera** is to provide eleven age appropriate in-school performances/residencies in York County. The program presented would be tied into the schools' core curriculum as well as the state Standards of Learning. An estimated 6,000 students would be served through this program.

For further information and performance information, visit www.vaopera.org

The **Virginia Opera** received a total of \$20,000 in contributions and grants for FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$5,500.**

Virginia Shakespeare Festival



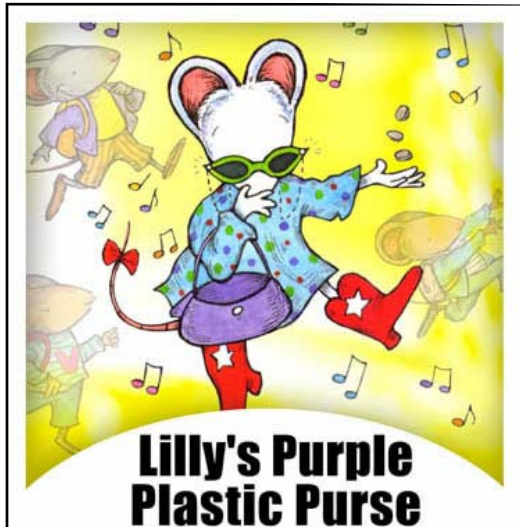
The College of William and Mary has hosted and administered the **Virginia Shakespeare Festival** since 1978. It is one of the summer's major arts events in the region. Attendance typically ranges between 6,000 to 8,000 people per year. Reduced admission is offered to school groups, Head Start, elder-hostels, retirement communities, summer-school students, church groups and civic organizations.

2004 marks the 26th season of the Festival featuring performances of A Midsummer Night's Dream, Henry IV, Part I, and Long Day's Journey Into Night in Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall, beginning July 9 and concluding August 8. Performances are at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and at 2 p.m. on Sundays.

More information can be obtained at <http://vsf.wm.edu>.

The **Virginia Shakespeare Festival** received a total of \$36,300 in grants and contributions for FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$2,500.**

Virginia Stage Company



The mission of the **Virginia Stage Company's** Education Department is to provide quality artistic programming for people of all ages that represents our diverse community and encourages creative thinking, personal growth and imagination building. During the 2002-2003 season, 433 York County students and their teachers attended a matinee performance at the historic Wells Theatre. The schools served were Grafton Bethel Elementary (270), Seaford Elementary (270) and Mt. Vernon Elementary (270).

Funding requested by the **Virginia Stage Company** would help provide live professional theatre accessible to York County, Williamsburg and James City County school

children through Theatre for Kids, part of the VSC's education and community outreach.

For information on the **Virginia Stage Company**, visit www.vastage.com.

The **Virginia Stage Company** received a total of \$244,850 in contributions and grants for FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$1,200.**

Virginia Symphony



The much-acclaimed **Virginia Symphony** is a professional orchestra that serves the Hampton Roads region with over 150 concerts per year. Performed with the highest quality artistry, their concerts have enriched, inspired, educated and served as a source of pride for the region. The **Virginia Symphony** performs regularly in Williamsburg, James City County, and Newport News as part of an outreach program that enables enjoyment of symphony music at

convenient locations. In addition, the seventy-six professional musicians who are employed by the **Virginia Symphony** reside in Hampton Roads and are able to provide instruction in music, which enhances the quality of music education in our area.

In addition to performing in locations such as the Williamsburg Winery, Jamestown High School, Lee Hall, and the Mariner's Museum, the **Virginia Symphony** has performed for four consecutive years in Yorktown. These concerts have become extremely popular with both local residents and tourists. Last year, the **Virginia Symphony** concert was estimated to have 5,000 people in attendance.

The **Virginia Symphony** received a total of \$308,000 in grants for FY2004 from various sources. For FY2005, the **York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$2,500 of County Grant funding and \$150 of State arts funds.**

Watermen's Museum



Located on the Yorktown Waterfront, the exhibits and programs of the **Watermen's Museum** are focused on preserving the heritage of the watermen of the Chesapeake Bay, interpreting their culture and contribution to the region and to preserve and enhance the environment of the Chesapeake Bay. One way these goals have been supported are by offering educational programs for York County school children. Over

1,800 school K-3rd grade children have participated in workshops last year.

Children are taught a variety of subjects such as fish and shellfish harvesting, the history of watermen and the Chesapeake Bay, ecology and conservation practices that are necessary to maintain a healthy aquatic environment.

The **Watermen's Museum** received a total of \$10,500 in grants and contributions from various sources in FY2004. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$3,900.**

WHRO



WHRO produces arts-related television and radio programming for the Hampton Roads region that is aired on public television station **WHRO TV 15** and public radio stations **90.3 WHRO FM** and **89.5 WHRV FM**. Nearly 588,000 television viewers and 174,000 radio listeners tune-in to **WHRO** weekly. Of that amount, more than 22,000 are York County residents.

Our project this year continues to include the online WHRO website Public Events Calendar

along with WHRO TV *Arts Calendar*. We are also requesting funds to continue our production of a live 2-hour radio program in celebration of Arts and Humanities Month. Programs will be presented in such a way as to demonstrate the impact and importance of the arts to the community and the citizens who live in our community.

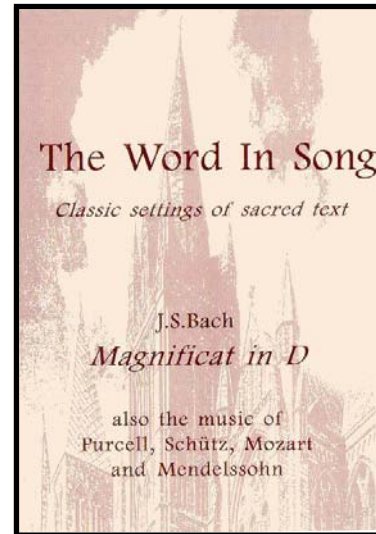
Visit www.whro.org for more information.

WHRO received a total of \$105,479 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$800.**

Williamsburg Choral Guild

The **Williamsburg Choral Guild** is a well-established community chorus founded in 1975. Its membership has grown to approximately 100 members from diverse backgrounds and musical experience that support the organization financially with dues and contributions. Formal auditions ensure quality of participants, the balance of voice parts in the ensemble, and help raise the overall level of performance.

Each season, the Guild strives to present a broad and challenging range of music, to appeal to a variety of musical tastes. Plans for the 2004-2005 season include: Christmas music of two well-know modern composers; a survey of a specific form of sacred music, the motet, over five hundred years of development; and a retrospective look at a quintessentially American musical form, jazz.



The Guild has a website, www.williamsburgchoralguild.org.

The **Williamsburg Choral Guild** received a total of \$26,450 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$400.**

Williamsburg Consort



Williamsburg Consort is the only adult “band camp” in Virginia. The organization was chartered in 2002 with 60 musicians from all over the United States and Canada. In 2003, the group had grown to 80 musicians.

The group produces an “America Alive” concert each year which serves as the conclusion activity for the Consort’s week long symposium. This year’s event is scheduled for September 23, 2004 and will include the Consort and the Williamsburg Choral Guild. Tickets for the event are free and special consideration is given to all local retirement communities.

For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$300.

The Williamsburg Music Association

The educational programming sponsored by the **Williamsburg Music Association** is some of the finest in the area. Each year the association presents entertaining and educational concerts for school-aged children in a program entitled "Young People's Concerts" and the "Discovery Concert" introduced last season to provide an educational musical experience to all children in the area.



The Williamsburg Music Association strives to involve youth in positive, safe, self esteem building programs, strengthen families by providing opportunities for parents and children to enjoy musical activities together, and to expand access to cultural enrichment activities for underserved youth.

Music Director and conductor, Ruben Vartanyan has presented more than 1400 major performances and is an artist of international stature. Maestro Vartanyan will prepare and conduct all the planned performances by the orchestra. This season, Nina Beilina, world-renowned violinist, as Arts-in-Residence, has assisted Master Vartanyan.

The grant will be used to fund the Youth Education program. This program includes the Young People's concerts presented each year and the "Discovery Concert" which began last season to provide an educational musical experience to all children in the area. These performances comply with Standards of Learning objectives, and are sought after by our public schools.

The **Williamsburg Music Association** received a total of \$88,000 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$1,000.**

Williamsburg Music Club

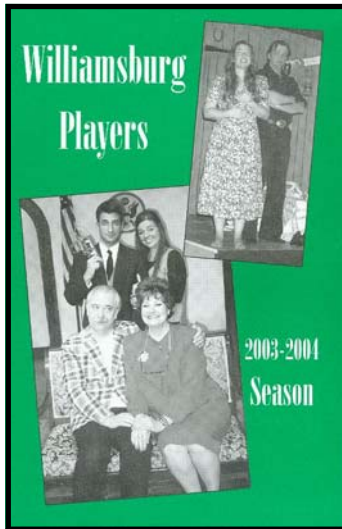


The **Williamsburg Music Club** is dedicated to encouraging and rewarding young musicians who show promise, dedication and a sincere desire to continue their musical education through a unique grants-in-aid program. This program offers young musicians in York and James City Counties and the City of Williamsburg an opportunity to perform publicly in a competitive situation, which strengthens their musical development and affords the community a chance to see and hear some of the young talent in our area. Grants won by the students are used

to further their musical training.

The **Williamsburg Music Club** received a total of \$5,350 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$550.**

Williamsburg Players



The **Williamsburg Players** have been producing five near professional quality theatrical productions for 47 years.

Assistance is needed with production costs in this all volunteer effort. Financial support comes from individual donations and proceeds from ticket sales.

For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$800.

Williamsburg Regional Library



Grant funding received by the Williamsburg Regional Library Foundation from the York County Arts Commission would be used to promote *LOOKING TO LEARN: Using Picture Books to Improve Reading Skills and to Introduce Children to Artistic Movements and Major Artists*. This program starts with illustration and moves to oral and written language because at-risk students are usually visual learners who process reading in the brain's right hemisphere not the left. Using picture books by Peter Catalanotto, the program is also an excellent introduction to fine art movements and artists.

More information can be obtained online at www.wrl.org.

For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$500.

Williamsburg Youth Orchestra



The **Williamsburg Youth Orchestra** consists of two large groups. The **Symphony Orchestra** is a full orchestra for advanced students while the **Strings Orchestra** is an all-string ensemble for beginning and

intermediate students. A major goal of the **Williamsburg Youth Orchestra** is to provide area youth an opportunity to improve their musical skills, develop a greater appreciation of orchestral music and experience the excitement of performing as a member of a full orchestra. A secondary goal is to enhance the musical offerings to the community by providing free public concerts.

Over 2,400 have attended concerts by the **Williamsburg Youth Orchestra**.

The **Williamsburg Youth Orchestra** received a total of \$17,200 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$1,200.**

York River Orchestra



The **York River Orchestra** is comprised of a mix of amateur and professional musicians who enjoy performing orchestral music. The **York River Orchestra** is embarking on a year of upgrading the organization in order to provide quality musical performances to the community. A local favorite for many years, the orchestra rehearses weekly and has an increasing performing schedule.

Recent performance locations that are convenient to York County residents include St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church and Grace Church in Yorktown, and the Yoder Barn.

The **York River Orchestra** received a total of \$8,400 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$900.**

Yorktown Arts Foundation



Through gallery shows, artist demonstrations, art classes, tours, outreach activities, local school and community functions, the Yorktown Arts Foundation generates a genuine interest and participation in the arts in York County and its adjoining areas.

While the Gallery on the York provides a venue for established and new artists to display and sell their works, it also offers space

for school and community organizations the opportunity to exhibit artwork they have created. Outreach programs to nursing and retirement facilities provide hands-on experiences to those who would not otherwise be able to visit the gallery. Similar opportunities are extended to underprivileged and mentally challenged individuals in our community.

The **Yorktown Arts Foundation** received a total of \$7,050 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends \$4,500 of County grant funding and \$1,400 of State arts funds (or equal percentage of State money if less State funding is received than anticipated).**

Yorktown Chorale



The **Yorktown Chorale** performs a variety of vocal music such as classical pieces, folk songs, and seasonal selections for the community on a year-round basis. Performances are held in many York County

locations such as the Fourth of July Celebration in Yorktown, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Grace Episcopal Church, Grafton Baptist Church and the Watermen's Museum.

The **Yorktown Chorale** presents programs that are suitable for all ages, family members, religious affiliations and ethnic groups in the community. Their seasonal concerts reflect love of God and Country in an unobjectionable manner, with due respect for community members that hold differing views.

The **Yorktown Chorale** can be found online at www.yorktownchorale.org.

The **Yorktown Chorale** received \$600 in contributions from various sources in FY2004. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$600.**

Young Audiences of Virginia

Serving communities for 50 years and a recipient of the National Medal of Arts, **Young Audiences of Virginia** one of the premier providers of arts-in-education programs. These programs are geared to presenting York County elementary and middle school children with a multi-disciplinary learning experience. In addition to improving skills of listening, reading comprehension, vocabulary, creativity, and speaking, students are also exposed to various art forms and artists.

The “All the Arts for All the Children” Project provides 10 free programs to schools. All programs are presented by professional artists and tie directly to core curriculum and the Standards of Learning while exposing students to all art disciplines including music, dance, theater, storytelling, visual and literary arts.



For more information on Young Audiences of Virginia, visit www.yav.org.

Young Audiences of Virginia received a total of \$434,000 in contributions and grants in FY2004 from various sources. **For FY2005, the York County Arts Commission recommends grant funding in the amount of \$2,000.**

